

subsidies for Members of Congress while leaving Virginia families to pay the price.

I urge the Senate to come to the conference table today. Let's get this done.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE LOSING

(Mr. BUTTERFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to say to my Republican friends, the issue is not whether you are winning or losing this debate. The American people are losing.

This is day three. We ask you again to be reasonable. Let's reopen the government and then get our leadership from both parties and both Chambers into a room and not come out until they have a bipartisan agreement to fund the government in a responsible manner.

Remember, Democrats, for the purpose of opening this government, have agreed to the Republican level of discretionary spending of \$986 billion. That's the Republican proposal; and Democrats, including the President, have agreed to this level of funding through November 15.

The votes are on this floor right now to pass the \$986 billion CR right now. Prove that I'm wrong.

Speaker BOEHNER, leadership requires that you say "no" to those who want to obstruct and shut down the government. You must say "no" to them and let us vote, up or down, a clean continuing resolution.

REASONS TO GET RID OF OBAMACARE

(Mr. HUELSKAMP asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, at 12:01 a.m. this past Tuesday morning, I attempted to sign up for ObamaCare.

It's now been 60 hours, and I have still not been able to successfully navigate the online marketplace. Error message after error message, failed security standards, and 60 hours on Web site hold for just this one Kansan, and it is clear ObamaCare is failing—and embarrassingly so—particularly for the former Kansas Governor who is now in charge of ObamaCare but, of course, refuses to live under it herself.

My office recently spoke with one of the insurers in Kansas who told us that not one of the 365,000 uninsured Kansans successfully signed up for insurance under the ObamaCare exchanges the first day.

Although Senator HARRY REID and all the Senate Democrats, Kathleen Sebelius, and the President himself refuse to live under ObamaCare, the rest of America doesn't have that privilege.

This is yet another example of why we need to get rid of ObamaCare. It's

unpopular, unaffordable, and unworkable.

□ 1230

OPPOSING THE CR THAT DELAYS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

(Ms. CLARKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, at the time that President Obama was first inaugurated, it was clear to most Americans that we had a crisis in the health care system: the cost of premiums was skyrocketing every year, millions of American families did not have health insurance, and many of the health insurance plans that existed were inadequate, providing coverage that was essentially useless when someone had a serious health problem or a preexisting condition. Our seniors enrolled in Medicare were, in many instances, paying hundreds of dollars each month for drugs.

Now the Affordable Care Act in immediate effect addresses this crisis. Already, the Affordable Care Act has permitted millions of Americans to visit a primary care physician without copayments, prohibits insurance companies from discriminating against people with preexisting conditions, and now parents are keeping their children on their health insurance plans until they're 26 years of age.

As of Tuesday, across our great Nation, people without health insurance at long last have the ability to enroll in health care exchanges. The Affordable Care Act, it's the law of the land.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

(Mrs. ELLMERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, we are granted the power of the purse strings here in Congress, so we are right and reasonable by using that power.

Yesterday, the House led and acted responsibly by providing yet another plan to get parts of this government back open again:

We provided funding to the NIH, which provides essential lifesaving treatments and research to families who have received the worst news possible—that their family member, their child, may have pediatric cancer that needs a cure. And I urge the Senate and the majority leader, HARRY REID, to bring this up for a vote in the Senate immediately.

We provided funding to the District of Columbia, which is part of our stewardship.

Today, we will once again vote to keep the promises to our veterans, and we will vote for the funding for National Guard and Reservists. These are

all issues that we all agree on, depending on where you are sitting, Republican or Democrat.

The right thing in this situation is to provide funding and reopen the government. It's time for us to act.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, because some in Washington insist on putting ideology ahead of common sense, we are in the midst of a government shutdown that will hurt real people in my State of New Hampshire. Shutting down our government hurts our economy; it hurts job creation; it hurts our veterans; it hurts small businesses; and it hurts middle class families.

We owe our constituents much, much better than this, like Joe, who called my office this morning from Afghanistan. The line was a bit crackly, but this is Joe's message to me today:

Support access to affordable health care for all Americans and open our government.

Joe said to me this morning:

I am over here working hard for my family and my country. Please, I'm asking you to do the same.

So Joe, today we owe it to you. Let's gather together and pass a responsible bill that will fund the government and then refocus our attention on the needs of our country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

PASS THE NATIONAL GUARD AND AIR FORCE RESERVE FUNDING BILL

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001, Lieutenant Colonel Rolando Aguilar was already in the cockpit of his F-16 at Ellington Field in Houston, Texas. He was a member of the Texas Air National Guard.

He was in his cockpit when he heard the sound of scrambling horns alerting him to fly a mission. He and his wingman took off and they headed east, and they intercepted Air Force 1 over the Gulf of Mexico and protected the former guardsmen from their unit from any possible attack. They stayed guarding him and flying next to Air Force 1 until they were relieved. Yes, it was President Bush.

According to them, the Texas Air National Guard was the first to be in the air on September 11. The members of the Guard and Air Force Reserve—and, Mr. Speaker, I was a member of the Reserve at the same time President Bush was a guardsman, at the same base at Ellington Field—kept them flying, have served and are serving our Nation